

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Tue, 27 Jun 1995 16:32:16 -0700 (PDT)  
From: "H. Ward Silver" <hwardsil@seattleu.edu>  
Subject: [1314] Offset During FD  
Message-ID: <Pine.3.07.9506271616.E12233-a100000@bach.seattleu.edu>

This can be a real problem because of the unusual band conditions during Field Day. I call it the "Midget Racer Demolition Derby" syndrome. Everybody has marginal antennas in often-marginal locations and has bugs bitin' 'em, sunburn, dog barking, etc. etc. So not only is there a ton of QRM, but lots of local distractions. This puts the guy just \*slightly\* off frequency at a disadvantage. Under "normal" contest conditions, if there is such a thing, the antennas and shack environment are more conducive to being flexible and hearing guys off frequency. Also, a lot of those guys that you call are unfamiliar with the rig, the mode, the code, the contest...etc. It's a funny "event"!

73, Ward N0AX

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Tue, 27 Jun 1995 19:53:21 -0400  
From: JCoote@aol.com  
Subject: [1315] Re: Ladderline Fiasco, Sartorially challenged radio enthusiasts  
Message-ID: <950627195320\_79623163@aol.com>

(The thread was about eccentric ham behavior, and spotting hams in a crowd.. in a humorous vein)

Spotting the ham in the crowd.... hmmm. Easy. Three H/T radios on his belt? Glazed expression? Glasses fixed with electrical tape? Pocket liner in shirt pocket? Spaghetti stains on T-shirt? The most profound example of bizarre ham attire I observed was in a Los Angeles area Ham swap meet. This gentleman was wearing a safety orange jumpsuit ( way too short and too tight for his profound girth) as well as a metal hard hat. At the top of the hard hat was a BNC connector and a "duckie" antenna... as well as a length of RG58 going down to ONE of the radios on his belt. Well- I guess it made a good groundplane at VHF. ; -)

72,  
Jay WB6AAM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Tue, 27 Jun 1995 23:57:19 +0100  
From: rgobrick@public.compuserve.com (Robert J. Gobrick)  
Subject: [1316] Re: Pixie 2 problems  
Message-ID: <199506280001.VAA08220@public.compuserve.com>

Dan,

I can't recall my "early days" of the Pixie 2 but I originally had some receive problems and I posted that you need to use an alkaline battery (energizer etc) instead of an old zinc carbon one. That 9v battery change did the trick for me.

Hmmm I wonder about the 3&4 being grounded - just checked and on my Dayton board pins 3&4 on LM386 are tied together and grounded - so I guess it does pay to check.

Good luck 73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

Hi all,

>  
>I've noticed several folks have seen the Pixie 2 article in QRPP. If  
>any are planning to use the printed circuit artwork, I would like point  
>out an error. The schematic shows pins 3 and 4 of the 386 tied together.  
>The artwork leaves pin 3 floating.  
>  
>I just finished building mine. I got the board at Dayton, but didn't  
>have the time to play until recently. Am I the only to get a loud hum  
>out of the receiver? No received signal, just a hum. Seems to transmit  
>ok. Just curious.  
>  
>  
>Oh well, back to the soldering iron.  
>  
>Dan WD8AAU ouch ouch (man is that iron hot)  
>af045@dayton.wright.edu  
>  
>

-----  
Bob Gobrick - V01DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada  
QRPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP

Internet: rgobrick@public.compuserve.com  
bgobrick@terra.nlnet.nf.ca

Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com

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From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Tue, 27 Jun 1995 19:44:03 -0400  
From: dcwill@ix.netcom.com (Dave Williamson aa4zx/8)  
Subject: [1317] Re: Why an offset on HF?  
Message-ID: <199506280031.RAA15955@ix3.ix.netcom.com>

>Most HF rigs, QRO or QRP, use a common VFO that determines both the  
>transmit and receive frequency. With NO offset, you would have to  
>"zero-beat" to the station you wish to QSO in order to be exactly on  
>their frequency. Only problem is copying code while zero-beated, all  
>you'll hear is the "thump thump thump" of the CW.

I've found a pretty easy and effective way to zero-beat using my FT-840, and I suspect others on the list could adapt it to their rigs... with the '840, one can select from a number of offsets, in 100 Hz increments. I usually use 600 Hz. Knowing this, I set my RIT to be exactly 600 Hz up. When tuning around, I leave the RIT in, and if I wanna work somebody, I zero-beat 'em, like I used to with my ol' TenTec Century 21, and then turn the RIT off. Viola, I'm mighty durned close to smack dab on the other guy, and as an added benny, the pitch is set just right now for the passband on my DSP-59+, if I need it.

dave aa4zx/8  
near elkins, wv

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Tue, 27 Jun 1995 21:19:02 -0400  
From: KenKD1XS@aol.com  
Subject: [1318] Subscribe  
Message-ID: <950627211900\_103644401@aol.com>

Suscribe  
Ken.KD1XS@AOL.COM

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Tue, 27 Jun 95 21:46:59 EDT  
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)

Subject: [1319] K5FO cometh

Message-ID: <1995Jun27.214659.4801@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

I finally saw the confirmation from K5FO in the Daily Digest, so guess we're on: 1830 on Thurs at the same Holiday Inn (?) in Calverton, which is the only I95 exit between the north side of the Washington beltway and Laurel. You can probably see the hotel from I95. I'll send a packetgram to K3TKS to give him the final heads-up. Anyone else in the area who wants to come is more than welcome! A good evening of QRP stories and possible Show and Tell, depending on what everyone has built since the last gathering. 73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

--

Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org

E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org

The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA

Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995

Date: Tue, 27 Jun 1995 22:01:45 -0400 (EDT)

From: rarland@epix.net

Subject: [1320] Re: Field Day Report

Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950627215422.20785C-1000000@grape.epix.net>

Russ:

Sounds like you had a somewhat dismal experience with QRP FD. If you don't mind, let me offer a couple of suggestions:

1. Get together with a couple of other hams who ARE interested in QRP. Do you own thing next year, runnin the QRP'+. (Nothing is harder or more frustrating than to try to educate the "Great Unwashed" in the finer points of QRP when they aren't truly convinced that it will work"
2. Have fun.....hard to do when the majority of the ops want to turn up the power. (refer to suggestion #1).
3. Do a program on QRP for your local club. DO NOT expect any great migration from the QRO types into the ranks of QRP. HOWEVER, you will get one or two people interested in low power comm. Use these converts to form the basis of a QRP group within you local club. Then, when FD 96 rolls around, you guys split off on your own to do a QRP FD.

Don't lose hope.....

73 rich K7YHA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Tue, 27 Jun 1995 22:10:49 -0400 (EDT)  
From: rarland@epix.net  
Subject: [1321] Re: FIELD DAY - No challenge for my QRP!  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950627220243.20785D-100000@grape.epix.net>

Dennis:

Judging from your posting you were less than thrilled at QRP FD. I am posting this to you and the qrp-1 cuz sure as shootin' if you had some problems, so did somebody else.

First of all, although FD is NOT a contest, many clubs and big gun contesters treat it as such, so must you.

Secondly, if you are not experienced in contesting, you are behind the power curve and it is difficult to catch up. Fortunately, I had the great opportunity to work with two outstanding multi-multi contest groups and learned from some real pros, over 20 years ago. I find contesting fascinating and a real challenge, especially with QRP. My one hope is that you can get with some local contesters and work a few major contests using QRO and hone your skills, then carry these skills over into QRP contesting.

Third, QRP contesting is not for everyone. It takes certain skills that have to be learned (like riding a bike or drinking Scotch whiskey) and that takes time and effort. The best test bed is the actual contest. Try to mimick how the big guns do things, be aggressive and never, never, never give up.

QRP contests are a true measure of low power operating skills. Regular contests (CQ DX WW, ARRL DX, WPX, etc) pit you against the big guns with up to a 20+ dB power disparity. While this may not be fair, it certainly shows the rest of ham radio how a good QRP operator stacks up against heavy odds, when you post a good score in the major contest.

Keep the faith, and practice, practice, practice.

73 rich K7YHA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 04:40:58 -0400 (EDT)  
From: ab4el@cybernetics.net (Stephen Modena)  
Subject: [1322] AB4EL's QRP FD  
Message-ID: <9506280840.AA02455@cybernetics.net>

My FD callsign was AB4EL (as usual :^). The exchange was "1E NC". QRP, of course.

I put in less than 14 hours (too exhausted...I'm getting old!).

210 QSOs...usually don't have a lot of dups, because so many people are using logging programs and I have a good memory for which callsigns I have worked. So it will be in the vicinity of 2000 points claimed.

Worked only CW this year...that's a switch, because I usually show more stamina doing SSB QRP. Long periods of CW copy make my eyes roll back in my head from the energy it takes to filter the signal I want to copy from the five-to-ten others in the Field Day Bandpass of my Kenwood TS-430-S.

"1E" means I ran emergency power from home....Edison Cells and Gel-Cells.

I put up a tarp over the fencing enclosure outside my back door. I parked a small table in one corner...and quickly built a shelf for the rig and tuner with some scrap 2x4's (what can't one do with a circular saw and a staple gun).

I over-dosed on bug spray.

I put up fresh antennas for this affair...constructed and erected on Saturday. I meant to have a dual-dipole for 80 & 40...but I used the dimensions of previous antenna made with a different kind of 300 ohm twinlead, resulting in the 80 m dipole being in band and the 40 m dipole a-way up past 7.5 MHz (though it was perfect for 15 m). That one went up as an Inverted-V. After I saw my problem, it was easier to run up a plain (standard) 40 m vertical dipole on another tree. Finally, I put up a 20 m vertical Zepp (known to 2 m jocks as a "J" pole). That one was 33 ft of #14 stranded, insulated soldered to a 15.5 ft stub of 300 ohm twinlead tapped at 1/4 from the "bottom short" to connect to coax. I got that one up to 60 ft.

Band conditions were "in decline" in comparison to recent years. I guessed correctly that 40 & 20 would be the mainstays. Not much long haul stuff on either. Surprised the hell out of me that 40 was hardly crowded! 15 opened up only on Sunday morning...and then (apparently) only to Wisconsin. 80 m got a late start and the crowd built up after I went to sleep in the wee hours. Many were still there when I woke up.

The only person from the QRP-L list that I recognised was Paul

AA4XX, but didn't work him (too close, I guess).

Zero-beating: we all have different preferred ways to listen to sigs in a pileup. I try to guess whether a particular station is listening high or low according to the pitch of guys the target is answering ahead of me (remember? I'm QRP?). I give the guy a few shots, moving *\*my\** frequency to see if I can land in his *\*mental-aural\** bandpass.

No-listen Ops: There's a whole slew of guys that think they can score high by answering only 599++ returns. You can tell them by the fact that there is a 1 second pause between their ending "fd" and restarting their CQing. :^)

I only recall two "jerks" who called CQ for over 1 minute (!)... amazing, simply amazing to hear something like that. The runners up are the contestants who would QRL the frequency. If FD isn't about stepping on each other and surviving on both sides, what is it? :^)

I recall a couple of top rate ops who would burn along and then drop their keying speed to mine on reply. Hats off to them.

I enjoyed it, Folks! Always do. FD is great: Long Live FD!

--

73/Steve/AB4EL ab4el@Cybernetics.NET in Raleigh, NC 35.81245N, 78.65849W

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995

Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 07:43:02 -0400

From: JimN00CT@aol.com

Subject: [1323] SLQS FD RESULTS

Message-ID: <950628074300\_103910924@aol.com>

The St. Louis QRP Society ran an all home brew Field Day this year. Rather, we *\*tried\** to run an all home brew FD, but I never did get around to making that batch of "N00CT Dupe Killer Ale".

We ran a 40-40 on [you guessed it] 40 meters, complete with W7EL outboard "brickette" amp at 5 W (see July '94 Peanut Whistle). Keyed with an Oak Hills Curtis keyer kit. On 20 we ran an A&A engineering rig at 4W, with one of those super duper memory keyer kits. On 80 we ran an SWL-80 with no outboard amp (and few QSO's, either!).

Aerial Agriculture [antenna farm] consisted of an SGA dipole for 40 meters, and a Random Wire Vertical on 20 and 80m. All tuners were home brew, thus keeping in step with the challenge put forth by KC0PP at the Dayton QRP suite





From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed Jun 28 07:53 EDT 1995  
From: "Doyle, Ron" <doyler@uh2297p01.daytonoh.ATTGIS.COM>  
Subject: [1324] QSO I heard last night.  
Message-ID: <2FF142CE@sdcwinn.daytonoh.attgis.com>

While I was listening to 30m at about 0200z I heard a familiar call. Yes, it was W04b! Someone was calling Bob. I listened for a few minutes before going to bed and I was able to catch the callers name and exchange of RST. I don't remember the callers callsign but I did catch the name and state. Mike from PA was coming in strong in Dayton OH at 589 for me. Bob wasn't doing quite so well, he was a 339 at best. Bob gave Mike a 559 and Mike gave Bob a 539 (I think, It was late for me and I didn't write any of this down.) They were at 10108 or pretty close anyway. It didn't seem like they were matched to each other because I had to change freqs a little for each one.

Bob was using his new QRP+. Nice sound even if you were part of the noise here. I didn't catch much more of the qso then names, rts, qth for Mike and Bob's rig. What impressed me the most was the solid fists of both. They were running I would guess at abt 13wpm and very even and steady. Makes for easy copy for me anyway.

Nice to here a familiar call even if I haven't met them. I was sorry it was so late for me because I would have enjoyed joining in but I have found lack of sleep does wonders to really louse my day up. :( Hopefully next time I will be able to follow-up and join in.

Chuck ya better get busy or Bob is going to smoke ya!

FD report.

We had good weather and a good turnout. Most of the qso's were qro but we did hook up an Argo 509 to a generator run by a bicycle. The number of qso's an hour was about the same running 5 watts as it was running 100. This was abt 10:00pm est Saturday night. We ran long enough to make 5 qso's with natural power. Quit a kick. The guy on the bike said he had to keep an eye on the operator so he could anticipate xmits. If he didn't the extra drag would make him loose his footing on the peddles. It wasn't a hard job just jerky durring xmit.

73 to all de

Ron Doyle, N8VAR  
AT&T GIS - Dayton  
Work (513) 445-3179  
Home (513) 237-0790

<Ronald.Doyle@DaytonOH.ATTGIS.COM>

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Practice Random Kindness and Senseless Acts of Beauty

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 07:09:03 -0500  
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)  
Subject: [1325] Re: QSO I heard last night.  
Message-ID: <199506281209.HAA03963@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Ron,

Here I am stuck in MD, K5F0/3, no receiver-no transmitter!!  
And I'm getting these reports of Bob, W03B using the wrong  
call. :-)

It's OK, he needs all the help he can get. I'll probably  
see him on Thursday night and he'll want a free meal along  
with MCQ. :-) We'll swap trumped up state and country  
counts. He'd better be working 'em while I'm down and out  
for 8 count again.

I have a new secret weapon now. Details and film at 11.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams K5F0 CP-60 adams@sgi.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 08:31:41 -0400 (EDT)  
From: prvalko <prvalko@Oakland.edu>  
Subject: [1326] Re: Why an offset on HF?  
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.950628082531.11650A-1000000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Tue, 27 Jun 1995 PDouglas12@aol.com wrote:

> Oh, this is complicated. Offsets are something that I didn't really

SNIP

I gave up yesterday! I had all these little sketches and sine wave  
drawn on a piece of paper here and after a half hour, I remembered I get  
paid to DO something else :-)

73 =paul=

paulette : Highly suggest you get a copy of the ARRL handbook. The new one is nice, but even an old copy will have plenty of information to keep you busy! I buy a new handbook about every 4-5 years. I'm due in about a year.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 95 06:45:39 EST  
From: nf0r@slacc.com  
Subject: [1327] Pixie 2 on 40M?  
Message-ID: <9506280645.D5266oz@slacc.com>

Wondering if anyone has built a Pixie 2 for 40M? I have the pcb and the iron is heating. Any builder's comments or suggestions will be helpful and appreciated. I'm going to start with 3904's and see what happens unless someone has a better idea!

Thanks de Dave, NF0R                      nf0r@slacc.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 11:37:17 -0230  
From: rgobrick@public.compusult.nf.ca (Robert J. Gobrick)  
Subject: [1328] Re: AB4EL's QRP FD  
Message-ID: <199506281407.LAA19641@public.compusult.nf.ca>

Hi Steve,

Since you set up "temporary headquarters" (using a saw and staple gun) and you threw up some "experimental" antennas (20 meter J pole - hi) I bet you could have changed your class from 1E to maybe 1B or something like that.

The reason why I ask is that I operated 1E for a short while - but I was in my house using my "house" antennas - you with your setup were more qualified as a "field day" candidate than I was.

Anyway it sounds like you had some fun during the "exercise"

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

PS: I'm interested in your 20 meter J pole. Where (how) did you get the

info to know where to tap up 1/4 the way up from the shorted end? I always find this part "magic" in trying to explain the 2 meter j pole to beginners - I imagine if I get out some Smith Charts or buy one of the fancy programs from Wes Hayward etc I could figure out how far up the tuning stub I need to go considering velocity factors etc to place the 50 ohm tap? Or I guess I could just experiment moving the tap and cutting up the insulation of the twin lead until I find the best SWR null. Or I guess I could just ask you Steve.. hi Thanks again Steve.

>My FD callsign was AB4EL (as usual :^). The exchange  
>was "1E NC". QRP, of course.  
>

.....  
>I enjoyed it, Folks! Always do. FD is great: Long Live FD!  
>--  
>73/Steve/AB4EL ab4el@Cybernetics.NET in Raleigh, NC 35.81245N, 78.65849W  
>  
>

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 10:36:54 -0400  
From: PDouglas12@aol.com  
Subject: [1329] Re: Why an offset on HF?  
Message-ID: <950628103653\_80022086@aol.com>

Hint to Paul, and Paulette and all you others who are having fits with the offsets. The audio response of a DC receiver looks like a big "V" as you tune through a signal. The bottom of the V is the zero beat point for your receiver's VFO. On a single signal (superhet) radio, one of the sides of the V is eliminated, but everything else is the same. Use a vertical line to represent an incoming CW signal. Now move the line to represent a change in the incoming signal freq, or the V to represent a change in tuning knob (receiver VFO). Start with a picture like this:

```

          1      \    1      /
          1      \  1      /
audio  1      1      /
pitch  1      1 \    /
          1      1  \  /
          1-----1-----
                rf frequency

```

This is a good picture of a signal at say 800 Hz audio pitch heard on the upper sideband of a direct conversion receiver. Work at it, and reread the above paragraph a few dozen time till it begins to make sense. I will try to work around my sick computer (you may recall I had a close encounter with lightning last week) and get my article finished. 72, all Preston WJ2V

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 10:49:24 -0400  
From: JCoote@aol.com  
Subject: [1330] Companion TX's for SWL Rcvrs  
Message-ID: <950628104923\_80027180@aol.com>

While looking thorough my back issues of QRP QUARTERLY, I located two possible transmitter projects which could be used as companion transmitters for SWL receivers:

In the January '92 issue, KN1H described a VXO transmitter with a mixer oscillator which provides a wider VXO range, even on 80 and 160.

In the April '93 issue, W3TS described a 5-watter which he used with a Sony ICF-2010 while traveling.

These may be of interest to someone planning to build a companion transmitter for a portable SWL receiver...as I may get around to one of these days ;-)

72, Jay WB6AAM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 10:46:22 -0400  
From: JCoote@aol.com  
Subject: [1331] Current Baluns?  
Message-ID: <950628104612\_80027161@aol.com>

The small amount of literature on the subject convinced me that I should use a current balun in the next tuner I build, but are there any other types of current balun besides the choke or sleeve balun (typically a dozen ferrite beads slipped oner a short section of coax)?

I'd like to build a 1:1 or 4:1 current balun for 1-30 MHz around a more convenient form such as a ferrite toroid.

72, Jay WB6AAM

WB6AAM@K6VE.#SOCA.CA.USA.NA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 95 10:18:07 EST  
From: John Foote <footej@hn.va.nec.com>  
Subject: [1332] Zero-beating  
Message-ID: <9505288043.AA804359925@bills.hn.va.nec.com>

In CW work it's important to sound like you are answering the guy calling, so he will be likely to reply, even if he lost some of what you sent.

It's also important to have your signal land in the middle of his passband if he is using extreme filtering. 600 HZ off could put you down in the soup on his end.

I don't know if its professional standard, but the way I zero beat a guy with my ICOM 751 A is to tune him in so he seems to be at max on the S meter. Then I trun off the VOX (which automatically turns on the transmitter every time I touch the paddle) and hold down the DAH paddle. What I get is a string of DAH's in my headphones at the sidetone, or offset freq. (750 Hz). I can still hear the other guy, too. Hopefully he is still sending CQ de so I have a few seconds.

I then tune my receiver (the big knob, John) until the sidetone and the far signal are at exactly the same frequency. This is indicated by a somewhat raucus "beating" effect that sounds in my headphones like two clarinet players trying to hit the same note but not exactly making it. When the two notes sound the MOST raucus I am tuned to his transmit frequency.

When I key de KR4GL I should sound, to him, exactly as his signal sounds in his headphones.

72 de KR4GL  
John Foote

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 95 11:22:34 EDT  
From: jcumming@clark.dgim.doc.ca (Jim Cummings)  
Subject: [1333] Re: Current Baluns?  
Message-ID: <9506281522.AA21912@clark.dgim.doc.ca>

>The small amount of literature on the subject convinced me that I should use  
>a current balun in the next tuner I build, but are there any other types of  
>current balun besides the choke or sleeve balun (typically a dozen ferrite  
>beads slipped oner a short section of coax)?  
>  
>I'd like to build a 1:1 or 4:1 current balun for 1-30 MHz around a more  
>convenient form such as a ferrite toroid.  
>  
>  
>  
>72, Jay   WB6AAM  
>WB6AAM@K6VE. #SOCA.CA.USA.NA  
>  
>  
>

Get a hold of the November 1993 issue of CQ Magazine and read "Baluns for Antenna Tuners" by Jerry Sevick, W2FMI starting on page 50. Amidon Associates even sell a kit for the 4:1 balun. I built one from scratch and I use it on a 40 metre long dipole for 40/80 metres with balanced line with all the digital modes up to about 150 watts. I have yet to feel any temperature rise beyond the ambient when feeling the core during times of reception.

(I would offer to build one for you at cost plus shipping, but I would have to get another toroid - probably from Montreal - and you know how busy the summertimes can be. On the other hand, I have the special fiberglass tape and teflon tubing and wire for winding. Besides, there are the shipping problems for across the border.)

=====  
          Jim Cummings  
      eMail:jcumming@clark.dgim.doc.ca  
      packet:VE3XJ@VE3JF. #EONT.ON.CA.NOAM  
      73 and live better digitally  
      DON'T GET TOO EXCITED...  
      because remember, today is the first  
      day of the rest of your life.  
=====

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 12:42:30 -0400  
From: JessQRP@aol.com  
Subject: [1334] Re: NE30-40/SW30 low power out  
Message-ID: <950628124228\_104066676@aol.com>

I checked mine last night and the final is mounted right down on the board. I did replace one of the poly caps that decided it's leads were no longer going to stay in. I retuned the whole thing and it will go over 3 watts full output, of course the quality of the output is not the greatest at that power level. I bumped it back to about 1.5 watts and all is happy now.

Here's the mystery and why I am posting this to the list. When I start getting the power much over about 1-1.2 watts, the transmitted SWR also increases for reflected power. If I start at about 700 mhz, the SWR on reflected power is nada. As I increase the power much over 1 watt or higher, then the reflected power level also increases. I am guessing (since I don't own a scope) that the radio is starting to transmit "dirty" harmonics and that the SWR meter (OHR WM-1) that is is reading the "out of band" harmonics generated by the radio bumping the edge of RF twilight zone.

Any thought? I am going to try the cap mod that Dave suggested to see if I can get "cleaner" output at the higher power levels....

Best  
Jess

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 09:43:53 -0700 (PDT)  
From: Steven Wilson <randyw@crl.com>  
Subject: [1335] Re: Current Baluns?  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950628092934.27115A-100000@crl12.crl.com>

Hi Jay, I am not sure why they call some "current" baluns ? I have built several different types as well as took a few commercial ones apart. The primary difference is Rod versus Toroid. The rod types are easier to wind. The W2AU balun is a rod of Q1 material about 1/2" dia and 2 1/2" long. The winding is 8 turns trifilar wound of 14 ga wire. It is a 50 ohm balance to un-balanced type 1:1.

The toroids are usually Carbonyl E material. Increase the core cross sectional area for increase in power. The same is true for iron core transformers. Greater core for greater power.

One can obtain many different impedances ratios by how many windings and how they are connected. The ARRL use to have a book by Jerry Sevick, "Transmission Line Transformers", ISBN 0-87259-046-1

Engineering References:



Ruthroff, C.L. "Some Broad-band transformers,"Proc IRE Vol 47 Aug 1959

Turrin, R.H. "Broad-Band Balun Transformers" QST Aug 64, pp 34-36

I might be able to run down more info if you need it. It is hard to find the core material. Carbonyl E is what most amateur type coils are wound on.

de stan ak0b

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 1995 10:04:13 -0700  
From: dgf@netcom.com (David Feldman)  
Subject: [1336] Need ICOM IC-20L and IC-50L  
Message-ID: <199506281704.KAA12928@netcom14.netcom.com>

I have a need for the small ICOM amplifiers type IC-20L and IC-50L (3->10W on 2 and 6M respectively). If you have one or the other you wish to sell please e-mail me. I would be willing to include an ICOM IC-202 in trade (otherwise not for sale).

Thanks,

73 Dave WBOGAZ dgf@netcom.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 95 10:25:49 -0700  
From: rehm@zso.dec.com  
Subject: [1337] Toshiba E3030B Tube  
Message-ID: <9506281725.AA07332@slugbt.zso.dec.com>

Not exactly QRP, but does anyone know anything about a Toshiba E3030B(s) tube? My colleague next door has one as a paperweight on his desk.

It's about 8" high, 5" in diameter.

The plate is a gear-toothed mass, and the other end has five pins, which I'll guess are 2 for the filament, 1 for the cathode, and 2 for grids (which can be seen inside).

/eric rehm  
kj7ae  
Seattle

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 95 15:45:51 EDT  
From: Bill Acito 28-Jun-1995 1538 <acito@asdg.enet.dec.com>  
Subject: [1338] FD - W1FMR, QRP-NE  
Message-ID: <9506281940.AA18496@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>

QRP-NE W1FMR Field Day

2A Western Mass

Site: 'Under the windmills' - the small town of Princeton, MA operates eight windmills to subsidize their electric power usage. These windmills are located on the south-west slope of Wachusett Mountain, in north-central Massachusetts. Besides being a central location for the QRP-NE group, the location provides a high, clear set-up, and the mountain acts as a reflector to the SW. There is a high tree line running NW to SE adjacent to the clearing that provides an excellent loop or wire support system.

Before anyone suggests it, we're not allowed to connect or use the windmill structures in any way. There is, however, a lot of discussion of how to phase those 75' towers during the course of the weekend. :-)

I had responsibility for the 40m station, and was just itching to put the QRP+ through a 'baptism by fire'. One 7Ahr gel cell was more than sufficient to run the rig. A Vectronics mobile tuner/power meter and Idiom Press memory keyer filled out the station. I came up with a custom duping sheet that everyone seemed to like at the 40m station, and as others have said, getting the solid antenna match seemed to make the difference with the sig performance. I will also second the 'filter sweet spot'... Jim, W1FMR, gave me a nice lesson on this on his Argosy Sunday morning on 20; a few hundred hertz seemed to make all the difference. I can't speak for the rest of the op's, but I rarely called CQ; usually started at the bottom of the band, dropped the filter down to 100 or 200 Hz, and worked my way up. Tried four or five calls, slightly adjusting my frequency to theirs, and if I didn't work them, I moved on.

The antenna was a 40m loop, based on WT1M's success with one at Field Day last year. It was configured more like a squashed rectangle (+/- 40x30') due to the short height of the trees. I left one end of the loop unattached to the center insulator so it could be adjusted; once we had the antenna up in the trees a quick check with a MFJ antenna analyzer and a few small snips brought the resonant freq up to 7038. The crew busted me about going back into the thickets to snip a few more inches and get it up to 7040. I declined.

My research in the ARRL Antenna Book, the Handbook, and few other sources had loops fed with everything from just coax, balanced line, torroid transformers, and coax transformers. I chose the latter, cutting an old length of RG-13, 75ohm coax to a 1/4 wavelength, connecting it to the center of the bottom leg, and then running RG-8x from the other end back to the rig. It came in at 1:1.2 as it stood, and the tuner took the rest of the mismatch out.

A fishing rod with a large lead sinker painted orange worked surprisingly well in getting wires up into the trees. Cast up over a branch, grab the sinker, remove it, tie the line to a length of nylon string, reel the line back in over the branch, tie the antenna to the string, and then hoist.

Jim Fitton W1FMR brought the 20/80m station, an Argosy 509, with a Zepp for 80 and another loop (delta) for 20. A Pixie got some activity on 80, too (I'll let Jim tell that story). 10 was run from a mobile set up in a truck, and I brought a 2m all-mode rig with an 11 element beam on a camera tripod on my car roof.

Weather was hazy and humid on Saturday; it rained around dawn on Sunday, and then poured Sunday afternoon while Jim and I took down our stations. I had everything packed except the antenna and tent when the sky opened up on us.

Op's included Dave NN1G and his son (a new novice), Howie WB2CPU, Jim W1FMR, Mark NX1K, Walt N1CJB, WA1JXR, and myself, KC1GS.

Dave makes pasta like he designs radios, by-the-way. Mark got a nice twist in his ankle on the first morning chasing my orange sinker through the briars and over an old stone wall. I have serious scrapes and bug bites, and haven't dried out from the Sunday rain. We didn't have enough op's to cover the night shift (most of us used up our energy getting the antenna's up and tuned), but the q's are respectable (Mark NX1K will post an official score):

QSO's

|         |     |  |
|---------|-----|--|
| 80m CW  | 67  | (5W)   |
| 40m CW  | 135 | (5w, worked 6's and 7's no problem Saturday night) |
| 20m CW  | 117 | (5w)   |
| 10m SSB | 7   | (5w)   |
| 2m SSB  | 30  | (5w, longest DX was SNJ)                           |

...with bonuses, I'm guessing about 3,800 points. This is about 50% of last year; not a surprise considering one less transmitter class and a lower number of time-on and op's. Despite the bites, rain, and scrapes, I still had a ball.

Bill

. . . . . - I own my own words - . . . . .

|                         |                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bill Acito              | d i g i t a l                 |
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|                         | Digital Semiconductor - Fab 6 |
|                         | Hudson, MA                    |

kc1gs  
(qrp-ne #260, norcal #1147, arrl life)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jun 28 19:00:40 1995  
Date: Wed, 28 Jun 95 16:26:01 EDT  
From: Bill Acito 28-Jun-1995 1621 <acito@asdg.enet.dec.com>  
Subject: [1339] Incoherent CW?  
Message-ID: <9506282020.AA24628@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>

By-the-way, am I the only one who hears CW during that Sunday-afternoon, post-Field Day hot shower?

: -)

b

. . . . . - I own my own words - . . . . .

|                         |                               |
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kc1gs  
(qrp-ne #260, norcal #1147, arrl life)